

**52-PPA-MNT**  
**RETYPE FROM ORIGINAL**

May 22, 1952

Mr. Woodhall Ray  
Secretary, National Association for Retarded Children  
Post Office Box 85, Wall Street Station  
New York 5, N. Y.

My Dear Mr. Ray:

I have your letter relative to the program of the American Association on Mental Deficiency and the amount of participation by parents. You seem rather concerned that there is apparently less this year than last year. From my point of view the National Association for Retarded Children is now an organization that does not need to be nurtured by any other organization. The American Association on Mental Deficiency offered the opportunity to parents in local organizations to have a part in our meetings in order that they might form their own national organization. However, you are now an independent group and I feel that not longer is there any reason for participation from the standpoint of getting your organization established. Our meetings are open to your members and we welcome you just as your meetings are open to us and we hope you welcome us. During the years there will without doubt be many papers and reports by members of your organization at our meetings, and vice versa, but it will be because of some particular accomplishment or project that should be of interest to both groups.

I note that there is a section set aside on Wednesday morning for parents. This was not requested by the Liaison Committee as such. That is, I as chairman of the Liaison Committee know nothing of it. Frankly, I doubt that there is any longer any reason why parents should still meet under the auspices of the American Association on Mental Deficiency. However, it will provide a time when members of both groups can discuss problems of common interest.

My report for the committee is very short and on what the Liaison Committee of the Association has done or is recommending rather than on your organization. I note that in the progress the committee report is listed as Parents' Groups and Liaison Committee but I think it should have been Liaison Committee for parents' Groups.

I hope you will find it possible to get to Philadelphia and I know that the other persons from Minnesota who will be there will be glad to see you again. I am sorry that I personally cannot be there. Although I no longer will be the chairman of the Liaison Committee, I shall always be interested in the national group as well as the local organizations and shall cooperate in any way possible.

Sincerely,

Mildred Thomson (Miss)

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